(Representing Agoura, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Encino, Hidden Hills, Lake Sherwood, Malibu, Oak Park, Pacific Palisades, Port Hueneme, South Oxnard, Santa Monica, Tarzana, Topanga, Westlake Village, and Woodland Hills)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Jennifer Mashburn

Date: March 10, 2008 (916) 319-2041

<u>Assemblymember Brownley Names</u> <u>Kessler Woman of the Year</u>

(Sacramento) -- Assemblymember Julia Brownley (Santa Monica) chose Agi Kessler as her 2008 *Woman of the Year*.

Kessler, a resident of Woodland Hills, is the chair of the Democratic Party of San Fernando Valley.

"Agi has a deep loyalty to Democratic values and she works tirelessly to advocate for those ideals and get similar thinking people elected," Brownley said. "Agi, along with her husband, Kess, has a strong commitment to supporting Democrats and encouraging growth of the party. Agi's enthusiasm, dedication and incredible organizing skills serve as inspiration for hundreds of volunteers and elected officials. I'm proud to have the opportunity to honor her."

Under Kessler's direction, the party was tremendously successful in electing Democrats to office. They made over 100,000 phone calls, walked 200 precincts, monitored 130 polling places and hung 14,000 door hangers.

Kessler, along with the other honorees, was recognized today in the 2008 Woman of the Year ceremony. Each year, members of the California State Assembly and California State Senate honor a woman from their district who has distinguished herself in service to her community.

Assembly honorees begin their day in the State Capitol with a breakfast with Lt. Governor John Garamendi. Each honoree is then escorted by her Assemblymember down the center aisle of the State's Assembly Chamber, and presented with a beautiful framed certificate of recognition by Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez.